



## INFORMATION ONLY COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: January 28, 2025

From: Ron Bowles, Chief Administrative Officer

Subject: **Transportation Master Plan and Transit Consultation**

Report Prepared by: Nilton Praticante, Engineering Manager

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### STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

**Invest in Infrastructure** – We will invest in building, improving and maintaining infrastructure to meet the needs of, and to provide a high quality of life for, current and future generations.

### BACKGROUND – Transportation Master Plan

The City of West Kelowna's Transportation Master Plan (TMP) is a long-range guide that provides the City with a policy and direction for network planning, infrastructure improvements and a means to connect people and places using diverse transportation modes. The TMP also will serve as a primary resource for prioritizing projects within existing City Programs including the Road DCC Program and Pedestrian Improvement Program.

The City initially engaged with HDR Corporation to lead development of the City's new TMP. The process involved a highly collaborative approach with key interest and focus groups, in addition to extensive coordination to ensure alignment with the City's strategic planning initiatives including the Official Community Plan, OURWK's Community Vision and key Master Plan Updates.

To ensure involvement and input from the Community, the City, in collaboration with appointed consultants HDR Corporation and James Laurence Group, developed an extensive engagement program for public consultation which included:

- Individual meetings with key partners and stakeholders
- Small group meetings with interested organizations throughout the community
- An opportunity for comments and idea sharing through the *Ideas Portal* and *Mapping Tool* on [OurWK.ca/tmp](http://OurWK.ca/tmp)

- Pop-up displays at key locations in the community
- An open house for the public to connect directly with City staff on the Official Community Plan and the TMP

Utilizing input from City Council, a vast and diverse stakeholder list was produced which included 26 organizations representing a wide variety of focus groups including:

- Agriculture
- Business
- Youth
- Health
- Education
- People with Diverse Abilities
- Emergency Services
- Development
- Active Transportation
- Neighborhood Associations

The City also held TMP-specific stakeholder meetings with key partners Westbank First Nation and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to share visions and initiatives for a future unified, connected multi-modal network.

With the draft TMP nearing completion, with Council’s input, staff would prefer to re-engage with the public to outline key elements, policies and deliverables of the plan. The City will be holding an Open House on Thursday February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to bring forth these key details, in addition to presenting additional City topics including the 2025 Budget and future transit plans. In concurrence, through coordination with the City’s Communication department, online engagement will occur between February 3<sup>rd</sup> and February 18<sup>th</sup>. Following the open house and completion of the online engagement session, information will be collected and considered in order to finalize the draft plan for final referral and presentation to Council for adoption.

**CONNECT WEST KELOWNA**

**TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE**

We are updating our Transportation Master Plan (TMP)—a long-range plan that will guide how the City plans, manages, and invests in walking and cycling, transit, and road networks for the next 20 years and beyond.

Long-term transportation planning is vital to achieving the community's vision of vibrant city centres with complete, connected communities where you can walk, bike and take transit easily.

The Draft Master Plan has been developed based on input received over two years of public engagement combined with technical analysis. Now, we would like your feedback on potential refinements to the plan before it is finalized.

Your input on the TMP Update is key to ensuring it aligns with the needs of our community and reflects our goals for the future.

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

- Fall 2020: Phase 1: FROM VISION TO IDEAS (Community Engagement)
- Spring 2021: Phase 1: VISION (Completed)
- Early 2022: Phase 2: CONSULTATION (Ongoing)
- Early 2023: Phase 2: CONSULTATION (Ongoing)
- Summer 2023: Phase 3: DRAFT MASTER PLAN (Ongoing)
- Early 2025: Phase 3: DRAFT MASTER PLAN (Ongoing)

**WE ARE HERE**

**TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN CONSULTATION**  
Feb. 7 - 17, 2025

**CONNECT WEST KELOWNA**

**SHAPING HOW WE MOVE**

Your participation has helped us set the direction for how we walk, cycle, drive and take transit through the city for the next 20 years. Now we want your feedback to tell us if the Draft Plan's vision, goals, strategies and actions align with the needs of our community. Are we headed in the right direction? Is there anything we may have overlooked?

**SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS**

Based on the input gathered during Phase 1 and Phase 2 of consultation, let us know if the proposed future network plans accurately reflect a connected community.

Your input will help Realize West Kelowna's Transportation Master Plan 2040.

**Phase 2: FUTURE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK engagement**  
until Feb. 17

Scan and tell us what you think!

**WAYS TO GET INVOLVED**

- Check out the summary of the network plan
- Complete the feedback form
- Sign up for updates about the TMP and other engagement opportunities at [westkelownacity.ca/subscribe](https://www.westkelownacity.ca/subscribe)

Information session materials are also available online at [OurWK.ca/tmp](https://www.westkelownacity.ca/transportation) until Feb. 17.

**NEXT STEPS**

The feedback received will be considered to help finalize the TMP prior to Council's consideration of adoption later this year.

**THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION**

Let's keep working together to make West Kelowna an even greater place to live!

**TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN CONSULTATION**  
Feb. 7 - 17, 2025

## BACKGROUND – Transit

On September 10, 2024, Council authorized the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with BC Transit for the proposed 3-year Transit Improvement Plan (2025-2028) and directed staff to examine opportunities for additional public consultation specific to West Kelowna regarding the proposed transit improvements for future Years 2 to 3, and beyond. Based on this direction as well as additional feedback on the need for transit related public engagement received as part of the June 25, 2024 Special Council meeting Transit Workshop, the “Your Transit, Your Say!” public engagement initiative has been developed.

This engagement primarily consists of a Transit Survey aimed to gather feedback from both transit users and non-users to inform improvements in the local transit system. The survey will run from February 3 to 17 and is part of a broader effort to address community needs and enhance transportation options, with a focus on accessibility, safety, and convenience, as well as specific feedback on routing, service levels and proposed improvements to the system. A variety of engagement tactics to promote the survey, including social media, poster boards at schools and an in-person open house, will encourage diverse community participation in shaping the future of the transit system.

The City’s transit engagement process has been designed to incorporate seamlessly into BC Transit’s future engagement processes related to potential routing and service level adjustments. Following the engagement, Council will be provided with a What We Heard Report to summarize the engagement process, participation and responses.

## REVIEWED BY

Rob Hillis, Deputy Director of Engineering

Brent Magnan, Director of Community Development

Warren Everton, Director of Finance/CFO

Trevor Seibel, Deputy CAO



### Drive the conversation on transit improvements in West Kelowna

In collaboration with BC Transit, the City of West Kelowna is working to provide reliable, efficient, and more accessible transit services to meet the needs of our growing community. We are reaching out to both current transit riders and potential future users to understand your needs, challenges, and suggestions.

Your feedback is essential as we plan for a more accessible, efficient, and user-friendly transit network.

#### Why your feedback matters:

- Help us identify key improvements to routes, safety, and service frequency.
- Ensure that transit services meet the needs of all residents, whether you are already using transit or considering it for the future.

#### What transit improvements are most important to you?

We are exploring several potential service improvements. We want to hear from you to determine which changes will make the biggest difference to your daily commute.

#### Proposed improvements:

- Increased frequency on the 97 Okanagan Express.
- Expanded evening service on routes such as 21 Glenrosa, 28 Shannon Lake, and 29 Bear Creek.
- Flexible routing options during off-peak hours to better serve our community.

#### We need your input on:

- Which routes would benefit from more frequent service?
- What time frames should we prioritize for increased service (e.g., morning, evening)?
- How can we improve service in areas you travel to most?
- What factors influence your decision to use or not use transit (e.g., safety concerns, distance to stops)?
- What changes would encourage you to ride more often (e.g., better stop facilities, increased accessibility)?



WEST KELOWNA TRANSIT IMPROVEMENTS  
FEB. 3 - 17, 2025

**APPROVED FOR THE AGENDA BY**

Ron Bowles, Chief Administrative Officer

Powerpoint: Yes  No

Attachments:

TMP Display Boards (3)